Dr Vincent Y. Bowditch.
June 25, 1903

Saml E. May D [illegible]

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Leicester, Dec. 20, 1842.

To the Latimer Committee,

Gent.

I have just received your Circular of the 17th inst. relating to the Call of County Conventions, &c. — That you may not rely on me to do ~~more~~ a great deal in this matter, I think best to write at once to you. — I cannot see an hour of unemployed time for myself between now and the 2d day of January (13 days), and therefore I cannot promise much. I think Dea. Everett of Princeton will at once call a Convention in this County ([illegible]med in your Postscript) and I have no doubt there will be a goodly gathering. I will do all that is necessary to be done in this town & Clappville (a village in our territory) to get persons to attend; beyond this I cannot undertake to do much. I am engaged in getting names on the 2 great petitions in this town. — I will also remark that we have just had the Annual Meeting of our County (South Division) Anti Slavery Society, ~~in~~ at which much time ~~was~~ was occupied with the Latimer Case. — You ask ~~you~~ for names of persons in the County who will interest themselves in the proposed Convention — I should think it highly desirable that Circulars should be sent as follows: (in addition to those named by H. I. B. in your postscript)

+ Col. John M. Fiske of West Brookfield.
Rev. George Trask " Warren.
+ Amos White " Northbridge.
H. H. Davis " Dudley.
+ Rev. C. Palfrey " Grafton.
+ Rev. R. P. Stebbins " Leominster.
George Evans " Worcester
Albert Bancroft " Auburn
Hosea Trumbull " Upton.
+ Moses Sawin " Southboro'
Rev. Benj. Peck " Grafton.
Darius R. Stockwell " Webster.

If you cannot send to all the above, then to those that are *croſsed*.

Hastily, but with respect.
Yours, very truly
Saml. May

Meſs. Bowditch,
Channing,
Cabot.

P.S. You desire information as to how the *Petitions* are going on in this County. I can only answer for this Town, where they are filling up, but we shall be unable to let you have them by the 22d.

Fearing that the towns had not been fully supplied with *blanks*, I wrote to H. W. Williams at 25 Cornhill, more than a week since, to request him to forward blanks, giving him a list of about 20 names in different towns. I hope he was able to attend to it.

We urged, at our late County meeting, on all present the importance of immediate attention to the subject.

WORCESTER
DEC.
20
MS.

Paid /10

Mess. H. I. Bowditch.
&c. &c.
No 3. Amory Hall.
Boston.
(mass.)

Dec 20. 1842
Saml. May
Leicester

MS. Am. 1921 (3)

2 Rev S May

Leicester, January 10, 1843.

Meſsrs. H. I. Bowditch,
Wm. F. Channing,
Frederick S. Cabot, —
Latimer Committee,

Gentlemen,

Herewith I forward to you the Petitions from this town — Leicester — so far as names have been procured. The number of names now, on each petition, is as follows:

			Total
Petition to Congreſs —	235 men,	195 women —	430
" " Legislature —	226 men	198 women —	424

The petitions in the North part of this Town are in the hands of Mr. Wm. B. Earle who has made no return of them, and I do not wait any longer, as the 12th is at hand, and I have a private opportunity of transmitting the petitions to you. Mr. Earle will obtain enough more names, in all probability, to raise the number from this town to 500, and I think you would be safe in ~~counting~~ relying on our town for that number. Mr. Earle is one of the Committee of two, from this County, appointed to aid you in presenting the Petition to the State Legislature, and, if he has no earlier opportunity, will take with him to Boston the balance of the names.

I would observe that these Petitions have been signed by all the ~~Clergymen~~ Ministers of the town, Trinitarian & Unitarian Congregationalists, Baptist, & Methodist; by all the Physicians, four in number; (we have no practising Lawyer!) — by all the Preceptors in the Academy here; and by the principal part of the Farmers, Mechanics & Manufacturers, and the leading men among them, with a few exceptions.

I remain, with much respect,

Yours — &c.

Saml. May

Leicester

MS. Am. 1021 (4)